



NGB Helps Launch New NASA Education Vehicle

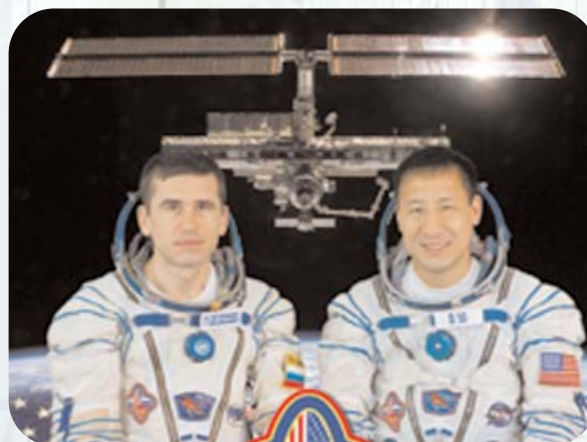
FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE

Contact:
MAJ Stephan Picard
Chief, DTTP Policy and
Liaison
703-575-4382

ARLINGTON, Va., 11 July 03 - On Monday, June 30th, 2003, the National Guard Bureau (NGB) supported the launch of a major new education initiative from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Under the new NASA Explorer Schools Program, which is being sponsored and implemented by NASA through a cooperative agreement with the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA), the space agency will invite teams from competitively selected middle schools from throughout the United States to visit NASA sites. There, the teams will work with NASA scientists and educators to spark creativity and develop innovative ways to teach science, mathematics, and technology in the classroom.

Dr. Adena Williams Loston, NASA Associate Administrator for Education, and astronaut Don Pettit officially kicked off the program at 11:30 EDT from the 2003 National Educational Computing Conference in Seattle. Before an estimated audience of 1,000 science and technology educators, Loston and Pettit announced the first 50 schools to participate in the program, winners of a nationwide competition. In her remarks, Loston also acknowledged NASA's partnership with NGB to deliver innovative science education to students across the country. In support of the June 30th event, NGB, through its Distributive Training Technology Project (DTTP), provided a video-conference link so that teams from participating schools in Phenix City, AL, Washington, DC, Florence, MS, and Cordova, SC, could take part in the launch.

After the announcement, the onsite and virtual audiences participated in an interactive session with the crew of Expedition 7 on the International Space Station. For an hour, Commander Yuri Malenchenko and Flight



The highlight of the kick-off ceremony was an interactive session with Expedition 7 Commander Yuri Malenchenko (L) and Flight Engineer Ed Lu, who responded to student questions live from the International Space Station.

--MORE--

National Guard - Always Ready, Always There

News Bulletin
News Bulletin
News Bulletin
News Bulletin

120





NASA (Page 2)

Engineer Ed Lu responded to student questions -- and, in so doing, highlighted the exciting uses of technology in classroom learning, as well as the importance of math and science education to the future of NASA space programs.

The June 30th event is just the latest in a series of collaborative efforts involving NASA and NGB. The two agencies are also actively working together to deliver innovative math, science, and technology programming directly to middle- and high-school students nationwide. Under this partnership effort, NASA provides the educational content, as well as the scientists, engineers, and astronauts to teach it; and the NGB provides the infrastructure, through DTTP, to deliver NASA's content to students nationwide, using its network of advanced, multimedia classrooms. To date, more than 450 students in seven states have benefited from the partnership.

"Through our activities with organizations such as NASA, we're making a profound impact on the lives and futures of students across the country," said MAJ Stephan Picard, Chief, DTTP Policy & Liaison. "One of our greatest strengths is our ability to connect students and teachers, wherever they are. On June 30th, we actually extend that ability into space. That's the power of the technology we bring to the table."

About DTTP

The National Guard Distributive Training Technology Project (DTTP) is a state-of-the-art communications and learning-delivery system designed to support the Guard's traditional and expanding operations at home and abroad. Its congressionally mandated missions are to improve military readiness; enhance command, control, communications, and computers (C4); and energize America's communities by providing shared access to high-performance communications, research, and development tools. There are more than 300 specially designed multimedia classrooms throughout the country, linked by a terrestrial network and emerging satellite technologies. These classrooms support such varied activities as military language-sustainment training; first-responder instruction; terrorism-preparedness training; emergency operations support; communications support, and scientific-education programming aimed at school-age children. For more information, please visit the DTTP website at <http://www.dttp.ngb.army.mil/>.

-- END --

News Bulletin
News Bulletin
News Bulletin
News Bulletin

